

Museum joins forces with a fabulous furry fundraiser

Image attached: Yorkshire terrier Mr Pelucchi stars in a new charity calendar raising funds for NESM (Photo credit: Sandie Powner Photography)

A fantastic furry fundraiser has joined forces with a South Yorkshire museum for a charity calendar that will benefit its work during lockdown as well as support the mental health and wellbeing of emergency workers.

The 'Lending a Paw' calendar stars three-legged pup Mr Pelucchi and was partly shot at Sheffield's National Emergency Services Museum (NESM). It features a number of NESM's vintage vehicles as well as staff and volunteers from the museum.

NESM is one of two charities who will benefit from sales of the calendar alongside Our Blue Light, which supports emergency and essential workers, including the NHS, ambulance, fire and police, with their mental health and wellbeing.

Mr Pelucchi, also known as the 'Barkshire firefighter', is a 10 year old Yorkshire Terrier who was born with a deformed front paw which was eventually amputated. He became an honorary firefighter in 2016 after a visit to his local fire station in Maidenhead and has since become a well-known face on social media for his work promoting fire and water safety as well as his love of uniforms, 'shoshigis' and performing for the camera!

A number of local organisations are featured in the calendar - the fourth the pawsome pooch has produced - including Scarborough RNLI, York Rescue Boat and Scarborough and Ryedale Mountain Search and Rescue. Other supporters involved in the calendar were Andy's Landie, Pete Lewin Newfoundlands, Severn Area Rescue Association, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service and Leicestershire Lowland Search and Rescue.

Matthew Wakefield, the museum's CEO, said, 'The support we've had from the local community and the wider emergency services community during this year has been amazing. We were lucky enough to meet Mr Pelucchi last year and I think it's fair to say he had us eating out of his paw! So we're very honoured that he's chosen us to benefit from his calendar this year.'

In an exclusive interview Mr Pelucchi said, '2020 has been an awfully tough year for lots of peoples and our emergency services has worked tirelessly throughout, making untold sacrifices on a daily basis to keep us all as safest as pawsibles. I did wants to helps gives somefinks back to all the 999 emergency services and essential workers.'

The calendar is available from NESM's online shop at www.visitnesm.org.uk/shop or at www.mrpelucchi.co.uk/myshop/